**GREAT MAPLESTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 17th October 2018**

**Present** Cllr.M.Elms (Acting Chairman). Cllr.S.Harris. Cllr.I.Johnson.Cllr.P.Haylock. Mrs.A.Crisp – Clerk. Members of the Public – 6.

**MINUTES**

1. **Apologies and reasons for absence**– Cllr.D.Turner - family committment. Cllr.J.Newton – family committment.
2. **Minutes of previous meeting –**The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 29th August 2018, were accepted as a true and accurate account of proceedings of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr.Haylock, seconded Cllr.Johnson.
3. **Declarations of Interest**  - None.
4. **County and District Matters** *–* None

1. **Officers Reports & Information Exchange –** *No business decisions may be made.*

**Cllr.Haylock** – **Planning** – Cross reference Agenda Item 10. Application 18/01208/FUL Long Fen, Church Street is scheduled to be considered at the BDC Planning Committee on 30th October. A breach of planning regulations at the site, has been confirmed by BDC. BDC Local Plan (Cross reference Agenda item 11) further work required by BDC following referral back from Planning Inspectorate.

**Cllr**.**Harris** – **Appendix 1 Report refers. Footpaths –** ECC have responded today, following the need for further chaser from parish council regarding the handrail on the steps at Church Field. ECC has promised to follow up asap.

**Cllr**.**Johnson** - Reports of oil thefts, and farm machinery, forklift trucks and the type of machinery used in raids on cashpoints.

**Cllr**.**Elms** –**Highways –** Still awaiting response to request for planings on lane leading to Rangers Hall & Hosdens farm. Lucking St. flooding – ECC advise further survey work required for project to be included in 2019/2020 budget. **Task Force** – Litter pick will take place following Autumn verge cut.

1. **Public question time** Members of the public were invited to ask questions.

Q. Is the parish council aware that the salt bin outside the new development “Buttercup Cottage”, Church St has disappeared? Cllr.Elms advised he will investigate and speak with the developer.

Q. Why had data provided by a parishioner in public question time at the July 2018 meeting, been referenced and used as commentary in the August edition of Maplestead Magna Carta? Cllr. Harris explained that the data had been included in the article following a telephone discussion with the data provider, who had subsequently agreed, in an e-mail, that the data could be used “to highlight the scale of usage only”. As a result, the article had contained no commentary on, or analysis of, the data; it had simply reported some reasonable assumptions and estimates and calculations of averages that had been made from the information provided; similarly, no conclusions about “valid monthly values” had been drawn – in fact the article’s wording had been conditionally qualified in order to ensure that readers would understand that the references and explanations of what the average estimates and calculations might show were for indicative purposes only.

Q. Why had Cllr.Harris not apologised for comments made regarding “spying” at August 2018 meeting ? Cllr.Harris confirmed he had withdrawn his comment, at the time, following reproach by the Chairman.

Q. Will the Parish Council be sending a councillor to attend the forthcoming County Broadband presentation in the village? The council advised they would contact Pebmarsh parish council to see if they could take any learnings from their experience. It was anticipated that a number of councillors would be attending the meeting in a private capacity but information would be shared with the council.

Comments were received by 2 parishioners regarding the conduct of the council at the August 2018 meeting. The Clerk advised that concerns/complaints regarding conduct should be referred to BDC Monitoring Officer, in accordance with the council’s Complaints Policy.

1. **Progress Updates** – *Clerk provided an update on action points from 29th August Meeting.*

The Clerk is working on the Local Council Award Scheme re-accreditation process, and advised that the fees will be £50.00 to NALC & £80.00 to EALC.

**8. Business Items**

8.1 **WW1 Commemorative “Tommy” There But Not There Campaign** – *Cllr.Elms advised this proposal had originally been tabled by Cllr.Turner, but he wished to propose in his absence bearing in mind how close the date was to WW1 Remembrance events in November. The Clerk advised that due to the timeframe a “common sense” approach would seem appropriate*. Cllr.Elms proposed that the council participates in the “There But Not There Campaign”, which is a charitable fundraising campaign. To purchase 1 x 10” Silhouette soldier at £29.99 and 7 x engraved,perspex name blocks at £10.00 each, to commemorate the Great Maplestead fallen, subject to church approval, as it would be intended for the items to be placed alongside the existing war memorial in St Giles church. Seconded Cllr.Johnson. Vote in favour 2, vote against 2. The Chairman applied a casting vote in favour of the proposal.

8.2 **Park Benches/Picnic Tables –** Proposal for purchase of new equipment, quotes are currently being obtained, item deferred to next meeting.

8.3 **Nets for Goal Posts on Village Paying Field –** Deferred to next meeting

8.4 **Environmental Project** – Deferred to next meeting

8.5 **Permanent Boule Courts** – Cllr.Harris proposed the council investigate the installation of a permanent boule court (s), including cost and maintenance requirements. Seconded Cllr.Haylock. Vote in favour – Unanimous

**9. Financial Report**

9.1 **Current bank balances:-**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Current account: |  | £119.56 | Reserve account: | £7046.43 |

9.2 **Noting of sums received:-**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| NWB Interest Paid August - September 2018  BACS Braintree District Council Precept (2nd payment) | 47p  £2451.00 |

9.3 **Ratification of payments made:-**

SO Mrs Ann Crisp - Clerks Quarterly Salary Payment (Jul-Sep) £1214.33

**Transfers**

TF From Reserve Account to Current Account £1300.00

**Payment(s) to be made requiring approval:-**

OB Mrs Ann Crisp –AVG PC Antivirus Security Renewal – 2 years £98.99

OB Mrs Ann Crisp – LCN Domain Name Renewal 2 years £19.14

OB Trustees of Great Maplestead Village Hall – hall hire (Apr-Oct) £78.00

Payments proposed by Cllr.Elms, seconded Cllr.Harris. Vote in favour Unanimous.

**10. Planning**

10.1 **Application Decisions**

*None.* Cross reference Agenda item 5.

10.2 **Applications Received**

*None*

**11. Correspondence – *For notification***

**Rural Crime Advice Day –** Wednesday 14th November, Slamsleys Farm, Blackley Lane, Great Notley 10am-3pm. Representation and advice from providers of security systems/equipment – focusing on equine facilities, farm machinery, outbuildings, caravans, stables.

**BDC Local Plan –** Update on the latest stage in the process. Stage 1 of the plan has been reviewed by the Planning Inspectorate and requires more work as it is currently classed as “unsound”. Stage 2 of the plan will not be considered until Stage 1 is assessed as complete and satisfactory.

**ECC Highways Devolution Pilot** – Invitation for parish councils to volunteer for pilot scheme.

**Scam Mail** – Consumer advice from Royal Mail will be displayed on the council website.

**BDC Polling Place Review** - Notification of district review. No changes proposed to current arrangements within Great Maplestead

**Parishioner Correspondence** – Concern raised regarding approaches received from other parishioners when using the village playing field

**12. Content for E-newsletter** Cyber Crime; New Community Policing Arrangements; Local Plan Update; Highways Devolution Pilot; Footpath update on Church Field steps handrail (if information received); Neighbourhood Watch winter advice; County Broadband.

**13. Items for the Next Agenda**

Please note that no decisions can lawfully be made under this item, LGA 1972 section 12 10(2)(b) states that business must be specified, therefore the Council cannot lawfully raise matters for decision.

**Park Benches/Picnic Tables**

**Environmental Projects**

**Boule Courts**

**14. Date of next meeting**:  **28 November 2018 at 7.30pm**

MEETING CLOSED AT 8.29pm.

**Signed…………TRUE COPY………………………… Dated…28th November 2018….**